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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 292

Santa Monica Daily Press

SAMOHI SWEEPS RIVAL CULVER CITY
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE VERY GREEN ISSUE

Man jumps from bluffs in failed suicide, snarls traffic

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PALISADES PARK A man Thursday jumped off the Palisades bluffs in a suicide attempt, forcing police to close a portion of Pacific Coast Highway so they could rescue him, authorities said.

Santa Monica Police Sgt. Richard Lewis said the unidentified man survived the fall but was in serious condition at a local hospital.

The call came in around 3:30 p.m., Lewis said. A witness told officers that the man climbed over a railing on the 800 block of Palisades Park and jumped.

The man was found approximately 40 feet above PCH in the bluffs. Fire fighters were called to collect him.

Traffic on PCH was backed up as a result, Lewis said.

kevinh@smdp.com

Panel: Climate change poses significant risks and opportunities

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Californians are encouraged to be prepared for flash disasters like earthquakes and tsunamis, but are they ready to adapt to something more permanent?

That was the question taken on by the State Senate Select Committee on the Environment, the Economy and Climate Change Thursday when it met at City Hall to discuss the impacts of climate change on Southern California.

SEE CLIMATE PAGE 11

Planning puts red light on electric vehicle showrooms

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE A proposal to allow up to four alternative fuel vehicle showrooms on the Third Street Promenade hit a speed bump Wednesday at the Planning Commission with commissioners split on whether the idea was acceptable or a few bolts short.

Unlike traditional dealerships, the showrooms would be relatively small with a maximum of 25 feet of frontage on the promenade itself.

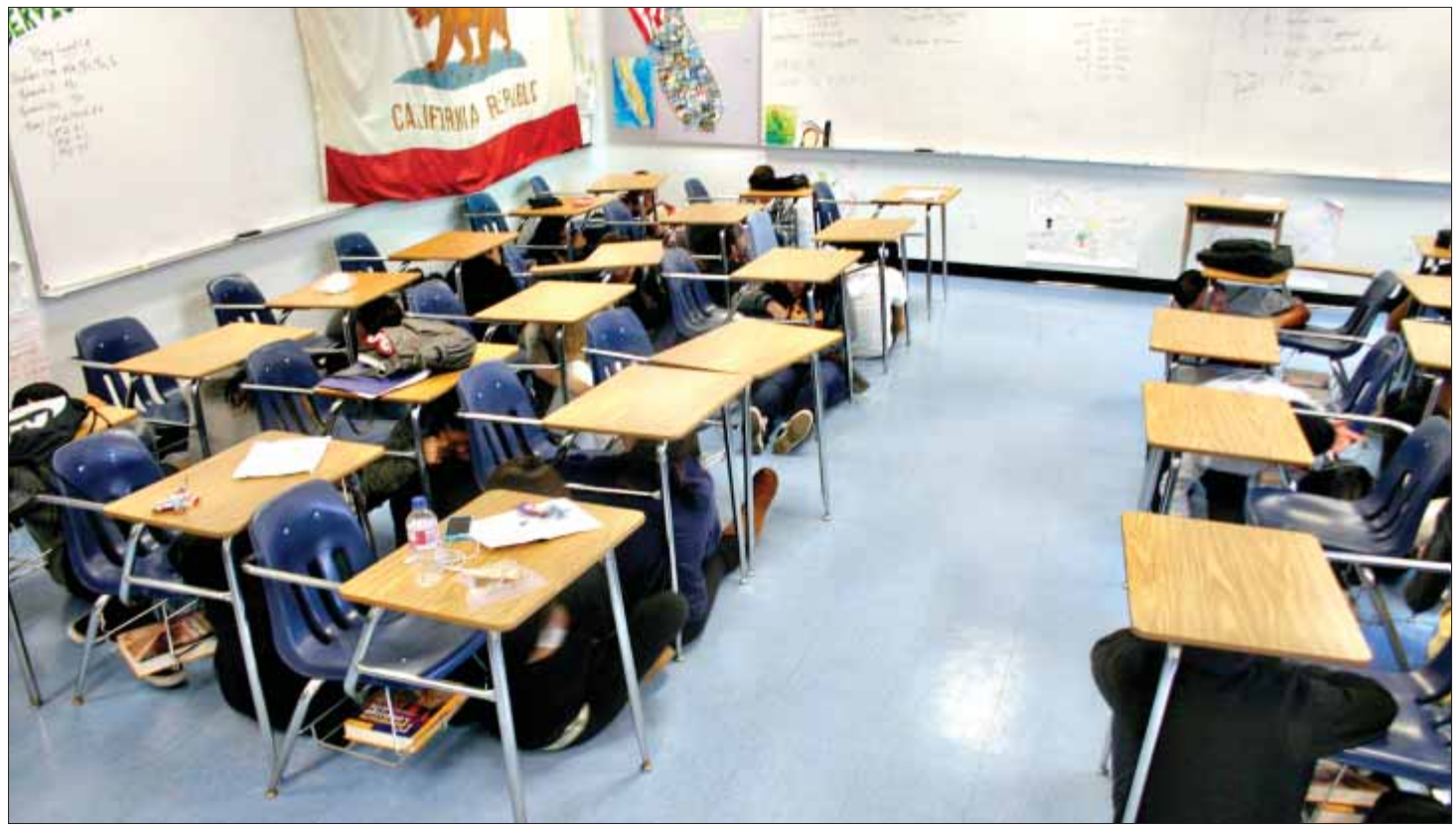
Only five vehicles would be available on-site at any given time. The rest of the space would be used for demonstration technology, education and meeting space so that customers could work with sales people to design custom cars.

Vehicles could only come in and out of the showroom between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Monday through Saturday, except holidays, and only with the approval of a city parking and traffic engineer.

There would be no car maintenance on site.

Other cities that have allowed such showrooms in shopping malls don't even

SEE SHOWROOMS PAGE 9



Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

DUCK AND COVER: **More than 8 million people statewide, including Santa Monica High School students in Jenna Gasparino's California literature class, participated Thursday in the 'Great California ShakeOut' earthquake drill. The ShakeOut is intended to simulate the impact of a magnitude-7.8 earthquake originating from the southernmost area of the San Andreas Fault. Under this scenario, a tectonic shift would produce waves of movement for hundreds of miles over four minutes. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, some 2,000 people would die.**

Statewide earthquake drill a massive effort

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Californians ducked under desks and tables in schools, offices and businesses Thursday in an annual earthquake preparedness drill.

Organizers said more than 8? million people signed up to participate in the 2011 Great California ShakeOut.

The majority practiced the "drop, cover and hold on" technique recommended during actual shaking. They included an estimated 650,000 students in the Los Angeles Unified School District, said LAUSD spokesman Tom Waldman.

At a Target store in Northridge, employees and customers dropped to the floor and took cover when the mock quake was announced at 10:20 a.m.

The goal is to train people to effectively protect themselves as the earth is shaking, avoiding actions such as running outside,

SEE DRILL PAGE 9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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Oct. 21, 2011

Fab four plus one more
Barnum Hall
Santa Monica High School,
7:30 p.m.
Beatles historian and humorist Martin Lewis will host "The Beatles at Barnum," a celebration of the music of the Beatles featuring the award-winning Santa Monica High School Symphony Orchestra and local rock band Father Knows Best. The performance will include full orchestra arrangements of Beatles favorites, audience sing-alongs of "Hey Jude" and "All You Need Is Love," and special guest vocalists and instrumental performers. For more information, visit www.SamohiOrchestras.org. Tickets are $20 for general admission, $10 for students. Available at the door or online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/204402
All proceeds to benefit the Samohi Orchestral programs.

Four on the floor
The Edye Second Space
1310 11th St., 7 p.m.
The playful and superbly inventive bebop-based pianist Jon Mayer brings his quartet and its delectable sounds to the SMC stage. Call for ticket info and purchasing. One performance starting at 7 p.m. with an additional performance starting at 9 p.m. Cost: $10. For more information call (310) 434-3005

Wine-derful evening
Paint:Lab
2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
An evening filled with paint, wine and cheese now begins at the Paint:Lab every Friday and Saturday evenings. There will be a sampling of wine and cheese offered. Limited space available, this is an open lab with no instructor. The cost is $35 for the all-inclusive evening.
For more information, call (310) 450-9200.

Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011

Out of the darkness, into the light
Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main St., 9 a.m. — 12 p.m.
The sixth annual "Out of the Darkness Community Walk" is back. Santa Monica invites all to come and be a part of the program. This is an effort to erase stigma, raise awareness and fund suicide prevention programs for the Los Angeles area. The event is held by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. To register, visit www.tinyurl.com/y89eslq or call (818) 788-2423.

From zero to hero
Santa Monica Pier, 8:30 a.m.
The 100 Mile Club, a non-profit organization that has a proven solution to our nation's childhood obesity epidemic, will be running to their marks from Corona, Calif. to the Santa Monica Pier today. With a 30 hour time limit, the endurance challenge paves way through Southern California. Runners who participate are asked to raise $100 for the cause. For more information, visit www.100ec.org.

Carving early
Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Ave.,
9 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
What's big, orange and round all over? Pumpkins. Today at the Pico Farmer's Market, locally grown pumpkins are available for decorating. Bring family members to come and dress or carve a pumpkin to your desire. For more information, call (310) 458-8712.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Ross Furukawa *news@smdp.com*

BACK IN TIME: **Muralist Richard Ankrom Wednesday puts the finishing touches on the restored 'Merry Go-Round' sign found on the exterior of the historic Hippodrome building, built in 1916. It currently houses a carousel from 1922 and an old-fashioned soda fountain.**

SM PIER

Ready for another go-round

The Santa Monica Pier has recently restored a visible piece of history by returning the "Merry Go-Round" hand-painted sign to the exterior of the historic Hippodrome building, currently the home of the pier's 1922 carousel and an old-fashioned soda fountain.

Officials with the Pier Restoration Corp. (PRC), which is responsible for maintaining and promoting the iconic landmark, hired Los Angeles painter-sculptor and installation artist Richard Ankrom to restore the sign, according to pier historian Jim Harris.

Originally the Hippodrome building was tan with blue trim – the same color scheme as today. It was built and opened in 1916 as a featured amusement on the Looff Pleasure Pier.

In the 1930s the color scheme was changed to tan with red trim and the original "Merry Go-Round" lettering was added. In 1983 the building was returned to its original coloring (tan with blue trim) and the lettering was removed.

Since the building has had no significant markings or signage since the original color scheme was restored, the merry go-round (a.k.a. carousel) has been difficult for pier visitors to locate – even with its prime location at the bottom of the pier bridge, Harris said.

Bringing back the signage was proposed by the PRC earlier this year and the Landmark's Commission unanimously agreed.

"The Merry Go-Round has been the cornerstone of the Santa Monica Pier since 1916, and this restoration of its signage is both a nod to history and easy identification of the treasured horses inside," said Harris, who also serves as deputy director of the PRC.

KEVIN HERRERA

WASHINGTON, D.C.

School board VP selected as delegate

Santa Monica-Malibu school board Vice President Ben Allen has been selected by The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) as a delegate to the Philippines for a 10-day political exchange program beginning on Nov. 3.

He will join eight other young political and policy leaders from across the United States to study the Philippines' political system, engage in dialogue on international issues, and forge professional relationships and friendships.

"I am so honored to have been selected to participate in this ACYPL exchange to the Philippines," Allen said. "This will be an excellent opportunity for me to learn about the current political and social dynamics there and help the Filipino people better understand the United States. We have a large number of Filipino immigrants in the Southland, and I'm eager to gain deeper insights into the cultural, political, and historical trends that have influenced immigration, trade, and cultural ties between our two countries."

Allen will join other delegates, each between the ages of 25 and 40, in Washington, D.C. for briefings by the Department of State and other Filipino regional experts before flying to Manila. The program will provide the delegates opportunities to travel within the country and to interact with key national and local leaders, business representatives, and civic and community groups.

For more information on ACYPL, visit www.acypl.org.

KH



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

TAKE THAT: **Samohi junior Joslyn Hayes spikes the ball against Culver City on Thursday on campus. The Vikings won the match in straight games. Samohi improved to 4-0 in league.**

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Samohi sweeps past rival Culver City

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI No head coach, no problem for the Samohi Vikings.

Santa Monica High School's girls' volleyball team swept Ocean League rival Culver City in three games (25-14, 25-22, 25-18) at home without longtime head coach Liane Sato, who missed the game due to illness. The win improved Samohi to 4-0 in league. Culver City fell to 4-2. It was the second win over Culver City for Samohi this season.

Assistant Coach Nguyen Trinh was tasked with leading the Samohi Vikings in Sato's absence.

"I'm just filling in," he said with a laugh. "I think I give my self a B [grade]."

Whatever it was that Trinh did to motivate the girls must have worked.

SEE **SAMOHI** PAGE 11

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It goes both ways

Editor:

As an attorney who has worked with battered men for years, I respectfully disagree with Sarah Stegemoeller's use of gender-biased terms in her column "Domestic violence is a man's issue," Your Column Here, Oct. 14.

Men are less likely to report it (which makes crime data unreliable), but almost 300 studies using various different methodologies now confirm "women are as physically aggressive, or more aggressive, than men in their relationships with their spouses or male partners," as California State University professor Martin Fiebert shows in his online bibliography at www.csulb.edu/~mfiebert/assault.htm

I have worked with men who have been stabbed, cut with glass, and had teeth knocked out with an ashtray. They usually don't hit back because they're raised as gentlemen and they know they'll be the ones arrested if they do. And they're usually too ashamed or embarrassed to report it, so it remains hidden and the violence continues until someone gets hurt. Meanwhile, the children who witness their mothers' violence are emotionally damaged and learn that this is how relationships should be. It's an intergenerational cycle, and we can't break that cycle while ignoring half of it out of political correctness and gender politics.

A few years ago I successfully sued the state of California to overturn the discriminatory, unconstitutional laws that excluded male victims and their children from state-funded domestic violence services. But that wasn't enough. They are still stigmatized, disbelieved and frequently denied shelter services or even a motel voucher by state-funded programs.

So it is especially disheartening to see people still framing the problem in sexist terms that leave male victims and their children invisible as usual. This has to end.

Marc E. Angelucci
Vice President
National Coalition For Men
www.ncfm.org

Thanks for speaking up

Editor:

Lori, thanks for sharing your story ("Shopping elsewhere," Letters to the Editor, Oct. 10). I'm certain that you are just one of the hundreds if not thousands of Santa Monica residents who go outside the city for their shopping needs. I have purchased two cars since the sales tax increase (total of over $80,000), never even thinking to shop at my local Santa Monica Ford (although it's not their fault by any means and I still get my service and warranty repairs there).

Since the plastic bag ban I have been doing all of my grocery shopping in West L.A. on my way home from work. It's really sad to see residents (and businesses) feeling the pinch of narrow liberal-minded laws. The next step after buying food and vehicles outside the city is to buy a house outside as well.

As a 30-plus year resident, I am nauseated at what has become of our town. When will we stand up for freedoms that are being pulled out from under our noses? Some are speaking up. Now it's time to start acting up. I'm sure that when Albertsons, Ralphs and the other big chains see their annual losses in the city they will pony up the money for some lawyers to cite unfair competition with neighboring cities. It's wishful thinking though; once a law is on the books it's almost impossible to get it removed. I'm glad to see someone saying what we are all thinking.

City Hall should tackle the homeless problem (and not by feeding and sheltering them) and leave the working class alone. But I'll save that rant for another letter.

Robert Kay
Santa Monica

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**



Photo courtesy Plug in America

ROLLING FOR GREEN: **Scores of people showed up in front of Santa Monica's City Hall on Sunday with their electric-powered vehicles for a parade down Main Street to draw attention to the environmental, economic and other benefits of plug-in electric vehicles.**

A world without tailpipes

LAST SUNDAY WAS WITNESS TO A unique parade on Main Street that may wind up in the Guinness Book of World Records. The event might have represented the largest assemblage in world history of freeway capable electric cars (188) on a public road at any one time. (Parade organizers have filed with Guinness.)

Because EVs are virtually noiseless, it was also perhaps the quietest parade in world history. Or, as one onlooker suggested, "It was so quiet it was like a funeral procession for the oil industry!" (I only wish.)

If you missed the parade, it's on YouTube. Just type "National Plug in Day 2011" and after viewing that, type "Electric Car Parade on Main Street." (It's the third video on that page.)

Paul Scott, one of the parade organizers and co-founder of Plug in America, is also a Santa Monica resident. Paul points out that "in 30 years our roads and highways will be so quiet that the loudest noise coming from an EV might be the windshield wiper."

I just hope 30 years from now there's still breathable air left and that global warming hasn't moved Santa Monica to Phoenix. (I realize that some believe climate change is a liberal myth but, then again, some believe Elvis is still alive.)

The truth is, the thought of a world without noisy, noxious, toxin-spewing vehicles sounds very hopeful. I'm old enough to remember Los Angeles before smog. (Or at least before it looked like a brown cloud on the horizon.)

In the second grade I remember our first "smog alerts." We kids weren't allowed to play outside because our eyes would burn and we couldn't take a deep breath without coughing. Personally I found it like a bad horror movie that the air was so "toxic," even though I didn't know what the word toxic meant.

Many Angelenos don't realize that we had rapid transit more than a hundred years ago. It started in 1901 with the Los Angeles Electric Railway, which at its height had 20 lines and 1,250 trolleys running through the core of L.A., Echo Park, Westlake, Hancock Park, Exposition Park, West Adams, Crenshaw, Vernon and Boyle and Lincoln heights. (Whew.)

Demographic shifts, the emergence of the automobile and increased traffic on city streets helped kill the street car. There are also theories that General Motors and a number of other companies purchased streetcars with the sole purpose of dismantling them and replacing them with bus services.

And then, in the name of progress, came our lovely freeway system, which we were told represented a futuristic nirvana of automobile travel. Instead it turned into bumper-to-bumper log jams and smog so thick you could cut it with a chainsaw.

In case you hadn't noticed, I'm not a big fan of oil and the oil industry. Not only has oil helped pollute our air, pursuit of oil via endless wars has drained our national treasury and costs hundreds of thousands of innocent lives. (On the bright side for some, oil companies are showing record profits.)

I live on Neilson Way, which is a mini-freeway. It's constantly noisy and the apartment windows facing the street are covered with black soot. (If that's what it does to windows, imagine what it's doing to our lungs.)

Fortunately, the parade of silent and stylish electric vehicles this past Sunday gave me hope for the future. One day we'll live in a world without tailpipes. I don't know how we'll get along without the noise and pollution of internal combustion, but we'll just have to manage.

To find out more about EVs go to www.pluginamerica.org and click on the "vehicles" tab. Also check out Paul Scott's profound YouTube video by typing, "Sustainable Living Lec 7" and clicking on the second video.

When he isn't busy lamenting the passing of Col. Gaddafi, **JACK** can be reached Jnsmdp@aol.com.

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The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2011. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Dental care a major draw at free L.A. health clinic

CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Avery Shapiro has had tooth pain for several years. Pat Morris' dental insurance wouldn't cover the tab for a filling. Chenell Bass had to stop driving because her eyesight got so weak.

Such stories were typical among the first 1,200 people filing into a huge free medical clinic that opened Thursday at the Los Angeles Sports Arena.

The four-day clinic, organized by Los Angeles-based nonprofit CareNow, is expected to draw 5,000 uninsured and underinsured patients who spent hours in line Monday to obtain wristbands to enter the event. Some even camped out overnight.

It's the fourth such event that CareNow has organized around Los Angeles County with the help of 800 medical professionals volunteering their services, and supplies and equipment donated by manufacturers.

"We hope to keep doing these until we're obsolete," said CareNow President Don Manelli. "There are 2 million uninsured in L.A. County. We're doing what we can do."

At all the clinics, dental treatment is the overwhelming request followed by vision care. "If you have a toothache, there's no ER to go to," Manelli said. "About 60 percent ask for dental care."

The buzz of dental drills cut above the hum of voices on the floor of the arena where dozens of dentists worked on patients in makeshift dental chairs in assembly line fashion. Their instruments sat on rows of folding tables behind them.

For 26-year-old Shapiro, who had to move into a homeless shelter after losing her job as a nanny three years ago, getting her tooth fixed was worth standing in line for almost seven hours earlier this week to receive a wristband to enter the clinic.

"It's a lot of waiting but I'm grateful they have this," she said. "I just don't have the money to pay for it."

Others said they had minimal dental insurance or health insurance that didn't cover dental or vision care.

Pat Morris, a 60-year-old retired phone company worker, said she can get cleanings and X-rays under her health benefits, but that's it. When her dentist found a cavity, she couldn't afford the $300 to fill it. "That's just for one tooth," she said. "I'm on a fixed income."

For Dr. Lillian Gelberg, a family medicine professor at University of California Los Angeles, the mass clinic demonstrates the cracks in the medical system. "We need to get everybody insured," she said.

Physicians attended to patients in curtained cubicles that served as consulting rooms. Many people were there for symptoms of chronic diseases, such as diabetes and hypertension. Foot ills were another big complaint.

Many poor people find ways of coping with maladies until they worsen to a point when they are in pain or can no longer compensate, said internist Monya De, who was volunteering her services. "Treatment doesn't seem like an option to them," she said.

This year, CareNow has lined up about 40 clinics to provide free follow-up care to the patients. "Our goal is to make sure people in line this year don't have to be in line next year," Manelli said. "Now there's continuity of care."

The organization is also pushing prevention harder this year. Booths offered preventive procedures such as mammograms, Pap smears and vaccinations, as well as information on smoking cessation, nutrition, and government assistance programs.

On the other side of the arena, patients waited for their number to be called for eye exams and free glasses. After queuing up six hours to get a wristband on Monday, Chenell Bass took two buses to get her eyes examined on Thursday.

The waits of hours were nothing — she's been waiting to get glasses for five years because she can't afford them.

"Not being able to see is terrible. I can't read anymore, and I love to read. I can't drive," said the 52-year-old former housecleaner who lives on disability for a bad back. "This is a blessing."

The Q Line

Seeing signs

New legislation allows the Big Blue Bus to add digital signs to the side of its busses. BBB officials say it could bring in up to $4 million.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think the new signs will be distracting or is it a good way for the local bus system to earn revenue?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 107**.











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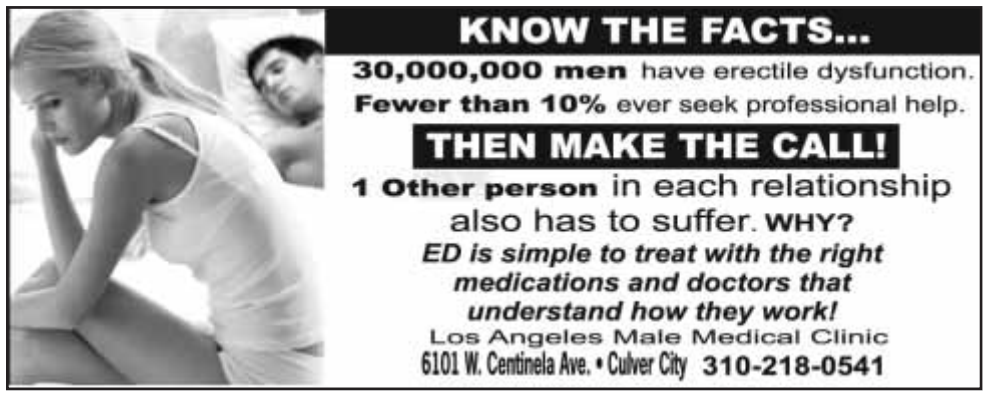



Expert: Swallowed propofol wouldn't kill Michael Jackson

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES An expert on the powerful anesthetic propofol told jurors Thursday there was no way Michael Jackson could have caused his own death by swallowing the drug — a theory defense attorneys had at one point indicated could become a centerpiece of their case.

Dr. Steven Shafer, an expert on propofol, said it's impossible for the drug to enter the bloodstream in any sizeable amount if it is swallowed.

He also told jurors it was highly unlikely the singer gave himself a fatal injection of the medication, or swallowed a lethal dose of a sedative.

Coroner's officials determined Jackson died from acute propofol intoxication, and defendant Dr. Conrad Murray has acknowledged giving the singer the drug as a sleep aid.

"The possibility of a direct self-injection seems extremely unlikely," Shafer said, explaining that it would be difficult for Jackson to have time to inject himself based on Murray's timeline of being out of the singer's bedroom only for a few minutes.

Propofol if not mixed with a painkiller is painful, Shafer said. "You would not want to try to inject this into a vein and miss."

He said it was much more likely that Murray gave Jackson a much higher dose of propofol than he told police.

Defense attorneys for Murray said last week they had abandoned the theory that Jackson swallowed propofol. They could begin questioning Shafer later in the day.

Still, the theory was included in a report by their propofol expert, Dr. Paul White, who is expected to testify during the defense case scheduled to being Friday and feature 15 witnesses.

Defense lawyers also have suggested that Jackson swallowed eight lorazepam pills without Murray's knowledge and that may have been enough to kill him.

Shafer, however, said the defense's own testing showed Jackson hadn't swallowed any lorazepam pills in the four hours before his death, and the amount of the medication found in his stomach was "trivial."

Shafer also suggested that Murray probably gave Jackson more of the sedative lorazepam intravenously than he told police.

In addition, prosecutors have said coroner's officials recently conducted tests that showed the levels of lorazepam in Jackson's stomach were far lower than defense attorneys have led jurors to believe.

Regarding oral ingestion of propofol, Shafer on Thursday walked jurors through studies dating back to 1985 on animals and more recently on humans showing propofol that is swallowed wouldn't produce sedation or reach the bloodstream in any sizeable amount.

Murray has pleaded not guilty to involuntary manslaughter. He was Jackson's personal physician for roughly two months before the singer's unexpected death in June 2009.

Shafer told jurors Wednesday that 17 violations of standard practices by Murray each put Jackson's life at risk. Many concerned modern life-saving equipment that Murray lacked when he gave Jackson propofol in the bedroom of his rented mansion, but Shafer said among the cardiologist's worst transgressions was putting his own interests ahead of Jackson.

He compared the Houston-based cardiologist to an employee who wouldn't say no to his boss.

"Saying yes is not what doctors do," he testified.

Shafer, a Columbia University professor and researcher who helped write the guidelines and warnings included with every vial of propofol, repeatedly said Murray's actions were unconscionable, unethical and illegal.

He said Murray's case is unlike any he's ever seen.

"We are in pharmacological never-never land here, something that was done to Michael Jackson and no one else in history to my knowledge," Shafer told jurors.

The professor reminded jurors that Murray had bought more than four gallons of propofol to use on the singer over the course of his employment, talked on the phone in the hours before Jackson's death, and delayed calling 911 when he found the singer unresponsive.

"The worst disasters occur in sedation and they occur when people cut corners," Shafer said. In Jackson's case, "virtually none of the safeguards were in place," he added.

Shafer said he was testifying for the prosecution without a fee because he wants to restore public confidence in doctors who use propofol, which he called a wonderful drug when properly administered.

"I am asked every day in the operating room, 'Are you going to give me the drug that killed Michael Jackson,'" Shafer said. "This is a fear that patients do not need to have."





STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Artists sue Christie's, Sotheby's for royalties

Famous artists are suing Christie's, Sotheby's and eBay, claiming they're owed royalties under California law.

Three suits were filed Tuesday in Los Angeles federal court. They claim the auctioneers broke a law granting artists 5 percent of proceeds from resale of their work if the work was sold in California or the seller was a resident.

Plaintiffs include artists Chuck Close and Laddie John Dill and the estates of Sam Francis and Robert Graham. Graham sculpted nude statues of contestants for a ceremonial gate at the 1984 Olympics.

A Christie's statement says the firm believes the law is subject to legal challenges and will address the issues in court.

Messages seeking comment from eBay and Sotheby's weren't immediately returned.

The Los Angeles Daily Journal first reported some of the suits.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

John Singleton sues Paramount for $20 million

Director and producer John Singleton is suing Paramount Pictures and MTV Films for at least $20 million, claiming fraud and breach of contract.

In a complaint filed Wednesday in Los Angeles, Singleton claims the studios failed to uphold an agreement connected with the distribution rights to 2005's "Hustle & Flow." The lawsuit claims the studios promised to finance and distribute two future Singleton productions within five years but added restrictions when he submitted the projects.

Paramount said in a statement Wednesday that it "was hoping that John Singleton would produce two more pictures before his agreement with our studio ended in 2010, but that did not happen. Instead, he went on to direct 'Abduction' for Lions Gate."

Singleton is demanding a jury trial. Paramount says the suit has no merit.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Man created 130 Facebook pages to harass ex

Prosecutors say a Los Angeles man created 130 phony Facebook pages and posted Craigslist profiles to harass his 16-year-old ex-girlfriend.

The Los Angeles city attorney's office says 22-year-old Jesus Felix pleaded no contest on Wednesday to two counts of violating California's new impersonation law and one count of making harassing telephone calls.

He was placed on five years' probation and ordered to perform 30 days of road-crew community service. A one-year jail sentence was suspended on condition he complete anger management and sex therapy classes.

Prosecutors say in a news release that Felix created Facebook pages and Craigslist listings using photos of his ex-girlfriend. The girl's mother discovered online profiles with her daughter's contact information as well as sexually explicit photos.

The Internet impersonation law went in effect Jan. 1.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Infant mortality rate reaches record low

California health officials say the state's infant mortality rate has reached a new low.

California Department of Public Health Director Ron Chapman says there were 4.9 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2009, the most recent year for which data is available. The previous low was in 2006, when the rate was five deaths per 1,000 births.

Health officials credit better health choices made by expectant mothers, like avoiding tobacco and alcohol.

Though the overall rate of infant deaths has gone down, racial and ethnic disparities persist.

Chapman says the infant mortality rate for African-Americans in California dipped from 12.1 per 1,000 live births in 2008 to 10.6 per 1,000 live births in 2009.

Officials say they need more data to determine if recent decreases indicate a long-term trend.

AP

BEVERLY HILLS

Subway to West L.A. could go under high school

Experts say the safest route for a long-awaited subway connecting Santa Monica and downtown Los Angeles would travel under Beverly Hills High School.

The Los Angeles Times reports Wednesday that the alternative would mean putting the subway under earthquake fault-ridden Santa Monica Boulevard, an unwelcome prospect.

Trains would pass about 70 feet under one campus building before the rails curve into Constellation Boulevard, where a station is planned at Avenue of the Stars.

Tunneling consultant Harvey Parker says the subway below would cause little or no impact on the buildings at the high school.

The route would have to be approved by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority early next year.

AP

BURBANK

Autistic boy found after leaving airport

A 14-year-old autistic boy who went missing after leaving Burbank's Bob Hope Airport has been found safe in West Hollywood.

Los Angeles County sheriff's Sgt. Brian Lutz says Cameron James Smith was found about 6 p.m. Wednesday on Santa Monica Boulevard by Burbank airport police officers. Lutz says the boy was found in good condition and was being transported back to Burbank.

Airport spokesman Victor Gill says Cameron had been put aboard a flight earlier Wednesday but the aircraft had to return to the gate for some reason and the boy got off with other passengers.

Cameron was seen boarding the parking shuttle, which he left at Hollywood Way and Thornton Avenue.

AP

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Man arrested for allegedly stabbing girlfriend, dumping her on freeway

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 12, AT 8:12 P.M.,

Santa Monica Police officers responded to the eastbound side of the 1500 block of Interstate 10 after receiving a 911 call from a woman who said she had been stabbed several times by her boyfriend and thrown out of her car. When officers arrived, they made contact with the woman, who had suffered several stab wounds and lacerations about her face, head, torso and arms. She was transported to a local hospital where she underwent several hours of surgery. Police said she was in stable condition and recovering. The victim told officers that she was with her boyfriend and had traveled to a beach parking lot on Pacific Coast Highway near Sunset Boulevard. That's when he suddenly began accusing her of being unfaithful and began stabbing her, police said. The boyfriend drove the car southbound on PCH to the freeway and forced the victim out of the car. The suspect returned to his home several hours later and was taken into custody by officers who were waiting for him. He was transported to the Santa Monica Jail and booked for attempted murder. He was identified as Eyner Armas, 27, of Lawndale, Calif.

TUESDAY, OCT. 11, AT 5:29 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 1400 block of 24th Street on the report of a traffic services officer being physically assaulted. When officers arrived, they made contact with the victim, who said that she had just issued a parking citation for a vehicle that did not have a valid parking permit displayed. That's when the owner of the car approached and began yelling at her. The owner said the permit was inside the vehicle, but he could not access it since he did not have his keys. The traffic officer told the owner that the permit needed to be hanging from the mirror and advised him how to contest the citation. The suspect allegedly became enraged and began swinging his arms wildly while yelling profanities. The victim retreated to her vehicle, at which time the suspect hit her in the arm once and walked away, police said. Officers made contact with the suspect and placed him under arrest for battery on emergency personnel. He was identified as David Hunzicker, 57, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $20,000.

FRIDAY, OCT. 14, AT 10:49 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 1000 block of Maple Street regarding a report of a suspicious vehicle. When officers arrived, they located a black Hyundai with Pennsylvania license plates. Officers ran the license plate number and learned that the plates were registered to a Ford and had been reported lost or stolen. Officers checked the vehicle's VIN number and found that it too was reported stolen out of Pennsylvania three weeks prior. Officers saw a man sleeping in the back seat of the car and questioned him. The man said he had purchased the vehicle three weeks ago. Cops didn't buy it and placed him under arrest for grand theft auto and receiving stolen property. He was identified as Kevin Bond, 34, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at $35,000.

SATURDAY, OCT. 15, AT 6:43 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 700 block of Montana Avenue regarding an attempted theft that had just occurred. When officers arrived, they made contact with a man who said that he was inside a local store — Greens Up — using his computer when he looked outside the window and noticed a man walking east with his bike. The victim said he had placed his bicycle against a tree and left it unlocked. The victim ran up to the suspect and retrieved his bicycle without incident. The victim called police. Officers located the suspect in the 800 block of Lincoln Boulevard and detained him. The victim identified the suspect and he was placed under arrest for petty theft with a prior. During the arrest, officers said the suspect resisted and fought with officers. He was eventually detained and later booked for resisting arrest and a parole violation. He was identified as Jacob Burrow, 29, a transient. No bail was set.

SUNDAY, OCT. 16, AT 6:01 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue — Bloomingdale's — after receiving a report of two suspected shoplifters in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security guards who said they detained a male suspect after he tried on a pair of Ray Ban sunglasses and then walked out of the store without paying for them. While talking with the suspect, security noticed a woman walk into the store who was earlier seen with the suspect. She attempted to return an item, which had been allegedly purchased with a stolen credit card. She was also detained. Further investigation revealed that the suspects found a wallet in Venice and decided to try and use one of the credit cards at Bloomingdale's. Both were placed under arrest for burglary. While searching the female's purse, officers said they found ecstasy. The suspects were identified as Steven Smith, 29, of Hollywood, and Nina Svetlovics, 22, of Tempe, Ariz. Bail was set at $20,000.

SUNDAY, OCT. 16, AT 3:55 P.M.,

Officers were on routine patrol in the area of 100 Strand Street when they saw a man get out of his car and urinate in public. Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 1700 block of Fourth Street and made contact with the suspect. Officers learned he was on parole and searched him. Police recovered marijuana and placed the suspect under arrest for possession, public urination and the parole violation. He was identified as Will Bryan Allen, 26, of Palmdale, Calif. No bail was set.

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news@smdp.com

Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

Reward for mountain lion poachers hiked to $11.7K

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The reward has been hiked to $11,700 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of poachers who killed a cougar in the Santa Monica Mountains last month.

The California Department of Fish and Game said Wednesday that the city of Calabasas has matched an earlier $5,000 reward offer by the Humane Society of the United States and the Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust.

The Ventura County-based nonprofit Animal Rescue Team also pledged $1,500 and San Diego's Mountain Lion Foundation added $200.

The 7-year-old male mountain lion was discovered Sept. 11 in a Ventura County canyon and investigators determined it was killed and mutilated by poachers.

The cougar had been tracked for nearly two years by National Park Service scientists, but in late August, the animal's collar stopped transmitting signals.

SHOWROOMS
FROM PAGE 1

require specific permits, said senior planner Paul Foley.

"The electric vehicles are considered analogous to electronic equipment," he said.

Other areas, including a shopping mall in Century City and the mixed-use Santana Row in San Jose, Calif. have seen success with similar installations, Foley said.

"It will draw more customers than some uses and fewer than others," he said. "I do think it will help activate the north end of the promenade because it will be a totally new use in that end of the promenade."

Some business interests have voiced concern that the northern end of the promenade is suffering a slow death thanks to the remodel of Santa Monica Place and more attention being paid to the south end of the popular shopping area.

Commissioners Gerda Newbold, Richard McKinnon and Jennifer Kennedy aligned against the concept, calling it out of place and unfriendly to the pedestrian ambiance already present.

"To me, this is a car dealership, and I don't think it needs to be on the promenade," Newbold said. "It's Las Vegas-ish."

McKinnon agreed, saying that it clashed with the other uses already on the promenade, particularly by putting a male-focused business like a car showroom on the city's main shopping thoroughfare.

"It's quite different from what we had, and I don't think it's a good idea," he said. "It's as simple as that."

Even proponents of the idea seemed short on reasons to approve it — Chair Jim Ries, who voted for the measure, said he felt there was little stopping it.

"I'm not a big fan of this idea, but I sense that it's imminent, so I will vote yes," Ries said.

That may be because the idea was met with gusto when originally proposed at the Aug. 9 City Council meeting by council members Terry O'Day and Bob Holbrook as a way to bring life to the north end of the promenade while reinforcing Santa Monica's reputation as an environmentally-conscious city.

If denied at the Planning Commission level, the matter can be appealed back to the City Council.

Perceived notions of inevitability aside, commissioners expressed a concern that the language allowing the showrooms was overly restrictive in that it singled out only electric cars for display.

While none on the dais wanted fossil fuel vehicles on the promenade, they also wanted to keep the door open to future innovation.

"I don't consider hybrids or flex fuel vehicles 'cutting edge' any more because they've been around for a while," Ries said. "There could be something in the future that could be more cutting edge."

Staff was left to find a way to craft that requirement into the proposal.

The electric car showroom was put in neutral until it can appear before the City Council, but Santa Monica has a long-term relationship with alternative fuel vehicles.

The city was home to the manufacturer Coda until the company moved its showroom to the Westfield Mall in Century City, and it hosted a National Plug In Day parade Sunday with 180 electric cars, motorcycles and trucks participating.

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DRILL
FROM PAGE 1

which exposes people to debris and glass falling from the exterior walls of buildings. Experts also hope to dispel erroneous notions such as trying to seek safety by standing in a doorway.

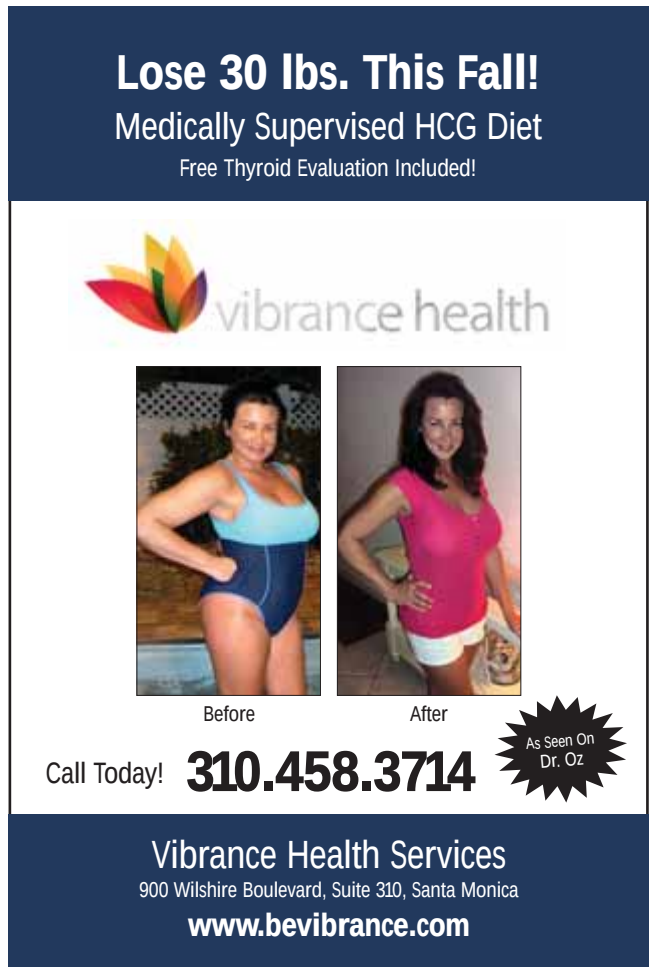
In addition to the drop drill, emergency responders and hospitals staged more elaborate exercises including search-and-rescue missions and mass casualty drills.

The exercise, now in its fourth year, is meant to help residents prepare for a major quake. Though California is the most seismically active state in the Lower 48, the state has not experienced a metropolitan-scale disaster since the 1994 Northridge quake that killed 72 people, injured thousands and caused $25 billion in damage to the Los Angeles region.

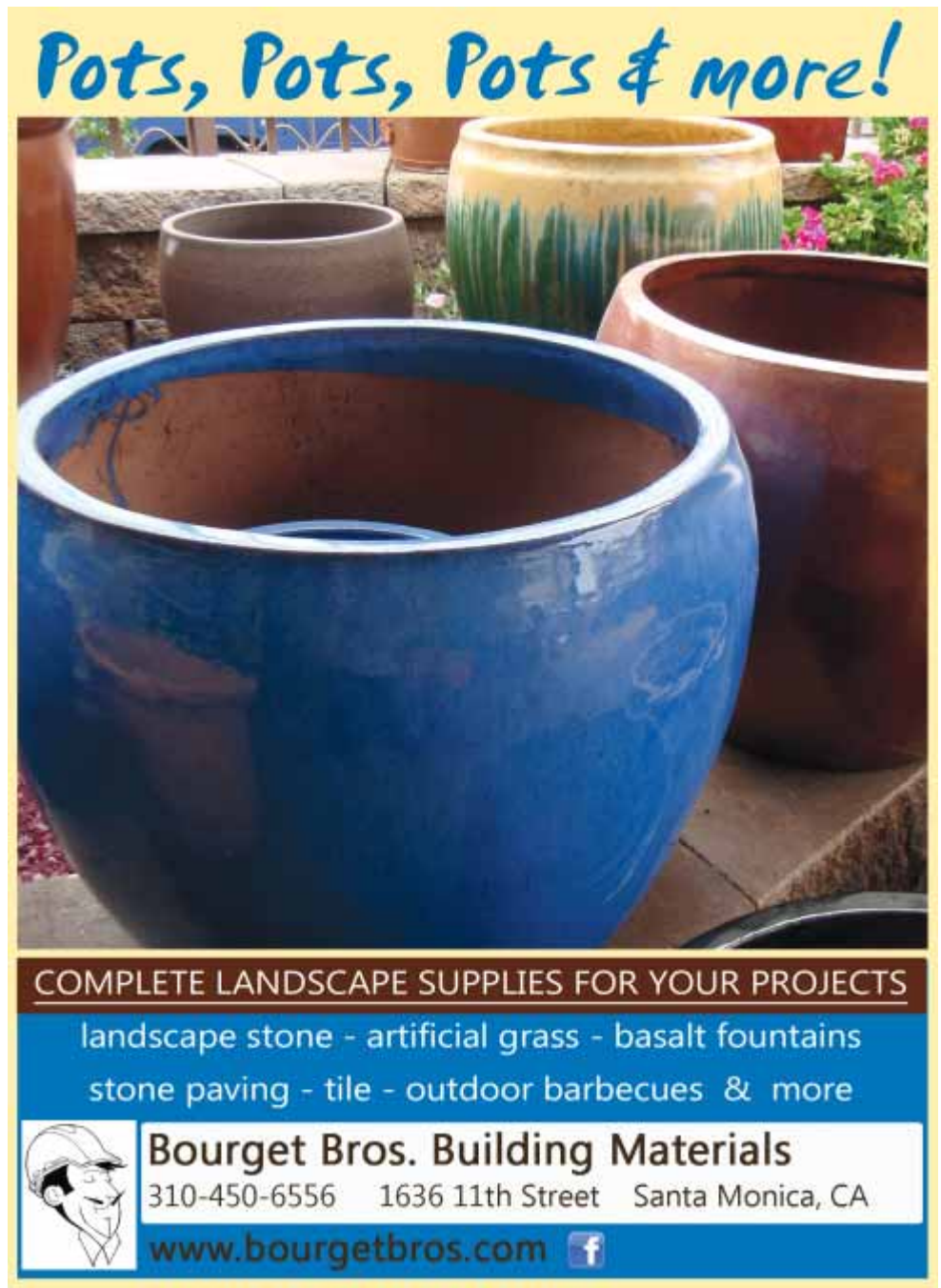
Authorities urged individuals and households to stock a first-aid kit and make sure they have enough food and water to last at least 72 hours.











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CLIMATE
FROM PAGE 1

The answer, as presented by an array of scientists and policymakers, was a resounding "not yet."

The challenges facing the global population are staggering, Dr. Tony Haymet, director of the Scripps Institute of Oceanography in San Diego, told lawmakers.

With the seven billionth person due in the near future, humans are putting pressure on global resources more than ever in the history of civilization, and the impact on the natural world is devastating.

"I'm going to tell you the good news and the bad news," Haymet said. "The good news isn't going to take very long."

On the positive side, humanity has the ability to use mountains of collected data to make decent predictions of how the world's climate will change, and California still has the wealth to put behind the infrastructure changes that will be needed to cope with it, Haymet said.

It was all downhill from there.

As greenhouse gases, recognized by many scientists as an agent in climate change, build in the atmosphere, Mediterranean climates like California's will begin to heat up and become more dry, Haymet said.

The snowpack, where much of the state's water is naturally stored, will melt earlier, which some studies suggest lead to greater incidence and severity of wildfires.

Matthew Heberger, a senior research associate with the Pacific Institute in Oakland, Calif., described the dangers of rising water levels both in terms of threatened homes and infrastructure and the price tag it will take to protect them — $14 billion per 1,000 miles of built out coastline.

When asked by State Sen. Kevin de Leon (D-Los Angeles) where that kind of money could come from, Heberger was direct.

"I don't think we can or should protect it," Heberger said.

And, in the face of such dire predictions, there is nothing that could be done even on a global scale to stop it.

According to Haymet, even if every person, power plant and car stopped polluting tomorrow, the amount of built up greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and ocean would take thousands of years to dissipate.

That fact steered the dialogue away from quick fixes and toward putting a stop to polluting practices and how Californians and the rest of the world could adapt to their new reality.

Climate change has arrived, said Julia Levin, deputy secretary for Climate Change and Energy at the California Natural Resources Agency, and now it's a matter of making sure California's population can cope.

"It is here and now," she said. "It's hard for any rational, science-based person to deny."

Still, Levin sounded the most positive note of the two hours of presentations, saying that many of the things that Californians will need to do to cope with climate change are efficiency boosting policies that will create jobs and spur on the lagging economy.

The emphasis will lie on conservation, new technologies and an "efficiency first" motto to make sure scarce resources go the distance for the whole state.

"If we make smart, strategic investments, we will be a stronger state," Levin said.

California's government and state agencies are finally past the planning stages on an approach to climate change and are working on outreach and education, Levin told lawmakers.

The change of focus represents a big shift for many Californians who, just a decade ago, were skeptics, said State Sen. Fran Pavley (D-Santa Monica).

"In 2001, 2002, we were still having the conversation if there was climate change or not," Pavley said.

Assemblywoman Betsy Butler (D-Marina del Rey), who was also invited to the panel, asked what there was to do about the remaining residents who think climate change is a myth.

"I thought all of those people lived in Texas?" Levin responded.

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SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 3

The first game began relatively even with Culver City racing out to a fleeting 8-6 lead. The Vikings regrouped, outscoring the Centaurs 18-6 to close out the game on a kill by Sarah Krenik.

The second game was a much closer affair. After racing out to a 5-1 lead, Samohi relented a bit as Culver City surged. The Centaurs would tie the game at 10-10 eventually going up by as many as three. Down, Samohi rallied, rattling off eight straight points to grab a 19-15 advantage. Culver City would tie it at 19, but the Vikings eventually pulled away to win the game.

"We just made too many mental mistakes," Culver City head coach Christopher Fraijo said. "We made some adjustments in the second game, but they were just too tough."

The third game wasn't as close as the Vikings would pull away to win the match in straight games.

Samohi may not have missed a step without their head coach, but at least one Viking felt her absence.

"It was good even though my mom wasn't there," said Blossom Sato, the coach's freshman daughter. "It was a little shaky at first, but we pulled it out."

The younger Sato entered the game trying not to have any preconceived notions and was surprised that the Vikings walked away with the relatively easy victory.

"I thought they would put up more of a fight," she said. "But we did a good job of keeping the pressure on them."

Next for Samohi is a road game against Ocean League foe Beverly Hills. The game is at Beverly Hills on Tuesday. The game begins at 3:15 p.m.

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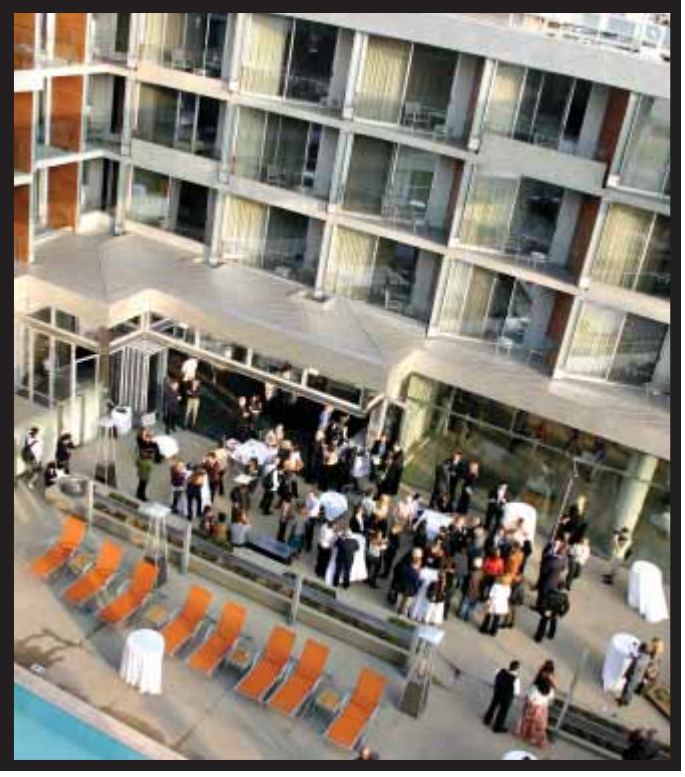
BIG CUT

Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom (right), Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce President Laurel Rosen and Dr. Siroos Farzam at the ribbon cutting for the Farzam family's new Ocean Avenue hotel, The Shore, on Thursday. The environmentally-friend hotel boasts 164 rooms dressed in beach shades of teal and orange with custom-made Teak wood furniture. The Shore hotel's extensive green building initiatives have achieved the U.S. Green Building Council LEED Silver Registration level.



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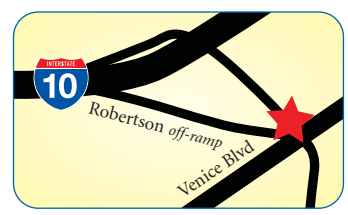

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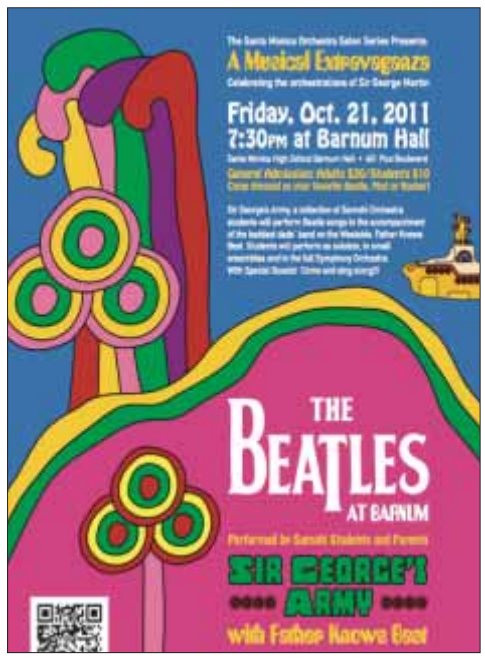
The Palette
Exploring Creative Santa Monica

The Beatles at Barnum featuring the Samohi Orchestra

Santa Monica High School's Barnum Hall, 601 Pico Blvd.

FRIDAY, OCT. 21, 7:30 P.M.



Sir George's Army, a collection of Samohi Orchestra students, will perform Beatles songs to the accompaniment of the baddest dads' band on the Westside, Father Knows Best. Students will perform as soloists, in small ensembles and in the full Symphony Orchestra. With special guests! Come and sing along and come dressed as your favorite Beatle, mod or rocker. Tickets: $20 general, $10 students. For more information: (310) 829-3107

Gangs of the Kosmos Reading Series presents South America in Santa Monica: Poems of Power and Passion

The Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club, 1210 Fourth St.

SUNDAY, OCT. 23, 2 P.M.

A reading by three South American poets will be followed by a discussion with both the authors and presenters. Doraine Poretz is a poet, teacher and facilitator of the Gangs of the Kosmos Reading Series. Antonieta Villamil is an award winning Colombian poet and recipient of the Latino Book Award 2011 for her poetry book "Cliff of Dream." Peter Lownds is a writer and translator and one of the founders of Paulo Freire Institute at the UCLA Graduate School of Education. Enjoy a stimulating, joyous afternoon of poetry and song. Admission: $5 donation requested. For more information: (310) 395-1308.

Pacific Standard Time

Santa Monica/Westside Focus Weekend

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCT. 21-23

Collaborating museums and galleries in the Santa Monica/Westside region will showcase the area's contributions to this unprecedented arts initiative in Southern California. Saturday includes a variety of activities including free shuttles to five participating Westside institutions, free curator and docent led tours, a panel discussion and a cultural bicycle tour of Santa Monica. The free public shuttles will be available on Saturday only from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will run between Santa Monica Museum of Art and galleries in Bergamot Station Arts Center, the Sam Francis Gallery at Crossroads School, the 18th Street Arts Center, Ben Maltz Gallery at OTIS College of Art and Design, and the Getty Center, which will host the Pacific Standard Time Family Festival. For details on exhibits visit the Pacific Standard Time website and click on Santa Monica Westside Weekend. Free shuttles supported by L.A. County Proposition A Local Return Funds, Santa Monica Cultural Affairs and Big Blue Bus. Museums, galleries and shuttles are free for the weekend. For more information: (310) 458-8350.

A Fishy Fest Celebrating Halloween and Dia De Los Muertos

Santa Monica Pier Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCT. 22 & 23, 12:30 P.M. — 5 P.M.

This family event combines two colorful, mystical holidays with fun and spine-tingling science. Activities include a glow-in-the-dark bioluminescence presentation, Invasion of the Body Snatchers, shark feeding and presentation, Bioluminescent Deep-Sea Experience, family-friendly presentations, marine animal graveyard, Dia de los Muertos alters, Dia de los Muertos crafts and face painting. Admission: $5 suggested donation/$3 minimum, free for children under 12. For more information: (310) 393-6149.

A Halloween Hullabaloo — A World Premier Family Theatre Musical

Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 Fourth St.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCT. 22 & 23, 12:30 P.M. AND 3 P.M.

ALSO RUNS THE WEEKEND OF OCT. 29 & 30

A magical, musical fairytale journey up and down memory lane, exploring Halloween through the ages — a delightfully interactive musical comedy in which audiences discover just where the trick-or-treat event we celebrate today with candies and costumes, ghosts and goblins came from. Win prizes, join the actors on stage, sing-a-long with the music, and receive complimentary face-painting before every show. Tickets: $12.50 adults, $10.50 for kids 12 and under. Come in costume and receive two-for-one passes to a future Family Theatre production. For more information: (310) 394-9779 ext. 2.

Cinema Connections

Santa Monica Public Library, Multipurpose Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

SATURDAY, OCT. 22, 2 P.M. — 4:30 P.M.

Cinema Connections is a free film series designed to show the connection between young and old. This Saturday features the movie "Freedom Writers." While her at-risk students are reading classics like "Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl," a young teacher (Hilary Swank) asks them to keep journals about their troubled lives and apply history's lessons to break the cycle of violence and despair that threatens their futures. This moving drama is based on real-life California educator Erin Gruwell's unorthodox methods. Free admission. For more information: (800) 516-5323.

Courtesy of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs. Sign up to receive The Palette weekly via e-mail at www.smgov.net/arts.

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

Conditional Use Permit 10-023, Development Review 09-001, and Variance 10-021, 1907-1929 Lincoln Boulevard. Development Review Permit (09DR-001) and Final Environmental Impact Report for a proposed one-story, 12,096 square feet retail Walgreens store with surface parking and a basement; Variance (10VAR-021) to reduce the number of parking spaces provided from the required 33 to 30 and a Conditional Use Permit (10CUP-023), to allow the retail sales of alcoholic beverages (Type 20 License - Off-Sale Beer & Wine). [Planner: Lily Yegazu] **APPLICANT: Hunt Real Estate Services. PROPERTY OWNER: Lincoln-Pico Partnership (c/o Marty Weiss). Continued from September 21, 2011,**

The Planning Commission also review and formulate comments on the October 6, 2011 Draft Urban Forest Master Plan including the amendments outlined in the staff report. Comments will be transmitted to City staff and the Urban Forest Master Plan Task Force for possible incorporation into final Draft Master Plan to be considered for adoption by the City Council on December 13, 2011.

WHEN: **Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.**

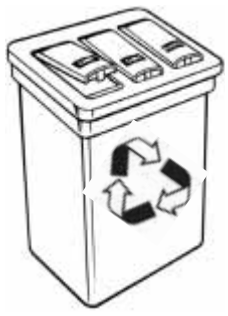
WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Project Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #2, #3, Rapid 3, and #9 service the City Hall and the Civic Center. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO • Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**



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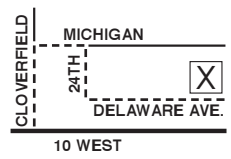

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #3066 – FURNISH, DELIVER, AND INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNAL EQUIPMENT UPGRADES AS REQUIRED BY TRAFFIC SIGNALS.

Please refer to the bid packet for further details.
The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=15167#
Submission Deadline is November 15, 2011 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-8215, or by e-mailing your request to monica.diaz@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

Owner of NYC protest park navigates a serious dilemma

MEGHAN BARR & MONIKA MATHUR
Associated Press

NEW YORK The New York plaza commandeered by activists who helped birth a global protest is owned by a wealthy real estate corporation with million-dollar properties around the world. It is, in other words, precisely the sort of company the protesters have been shouting about for more than a month.

Brookfield Office Properties owns Zuccotti Park, a granite space near Wall Street that, until recently, was a quiet outdoor plaza where New Yorkers occasionally ate lunch or relaxed on a bench. A highly respected real estate power player, Brookfield now finds itself in an unprecedented quandary: How to keep the public from using a space that is, well, for the public.

"It was meant to be a major public space in the Wall Street area," said Ross Sandler, a professor at New York Law School. "That was the purpose of it."

The company has won praise for good security at its properties, yet has fumbled in efforts to break up the encampment known as "Occupy Wall Street." Its options are limited because Zuccotti Park is one of more than 500 "bonus plazas" in the city: privately owned public parks borne of a little-known compromise struck in 1961 between the city and developers.

Brookfield, which declined to comment for this story, has in recent months enjoyed a good run of business acquisitions in the New York area.

It recently unveiled plans for a $250 million retail development of the World Financial Center, piling onto the more than 100 properties it already owns in several cities, including Toronto and Sydney. Brookfield also owns a majority stake in the Manhattan building that houses The Associated Press' world headquarters.

In 2004, Brookfield was among dozens of corporate donors that helped raise about $70 million for the Republican National Convention in New York. In 2000, it donated $50,000 to then-Mayor Rudolph Giuliani for his run for the U.S. Senate, which was later aborted. And current Mayor Michael Bloomberg's girlfriend, Diana Taylor, is on Brookfield's board of directors.

One Liberty Plaza, the Brookfield-owned skyscraper that looks out upon Zuccotti Park, is home to major financial firms like the Royal Bank of Canada. There's also a Brooks Brothers retail store on the ground level.

The idea of Zuccotti Park took root in 1968, when U.S. Steel Corp. wanted to build a 54-story building — what later became One Liberty.

But the rule established in 1961 called for developers who want to build a tall building to construct a plaza to provide "light and air" that otherwise would have been blotted out by a towering skyscraper. The bigger the plaza, the more zoning concessions a company could reap.

City officials loved the idea of an open landscaped area right near the New York Stock Exchange.

"Thus the City will gain what amounts to a permanent open park in the heart of one of the most densely built-up areas in the world," officials wrote in a resolution approving the plan.

The park, originally named Liberty Plaza, was destroyed during the World Trade Center collapse on Sept. 11, 2001, and reopened in 2006. It was renamed after John Zuccotti, chairman of Brookfield's board of directors.

Virtually all bonus plazas are required to be open 24 hours a day, barring a safety issue. And police must be invited in by the owner, just as a homeowner would have to.

"Eating a sandwich, taking a nap, people watching," said Jerold S. Kayden, co-author of "Privately Owned Public Space: The New York City Experience" and a Harvard University professor. "That's what they're there for. They weren't thought of as places to accommodate, you know, debates."

Few people, if anyone, saw Occupy Wall Street coming. Certainly not Brookfield, which was lauded last summer by the Department of Homeland Security for "excellence in managing security across its 60-building U.S. office portfolio."

Fearful of the public potentially damaging private property, developers have historically shied away from giving the public complete access to the plazas. That has resulted in a tug of war with the city, experts say.

"It's sort of an arms race as developers come up with new ways of making the plazas inaccessible and city planning recognizes them," said Gregory Smithsimon, author of "The Beach Beneath the Streets: Contesting New York City's Public Spaces" an assistant professor of urban sociology at Brooklyn College. "If there's one little ledge to lean on, they put spikes on it."

And until now, nobody has ever tried to occupy one for days on end. With the campers — who are clamoring against what they say is unfair distribution of wealth, among other concerns — showing no sign of leaving anytime soon, the city is venturing into murky depths of zoning laws that were hitherto unexplored.

Brookfield could apply for an authorization from the city to close the plaza overnight, but that would have to be approved by the City Planning Commission.

Last week, the company threatened to evict protesters in order to clean the park. Brookfield said it would start enforcing already-existing rules that would effectively end the occupation: no sleeping bags, no lying down on benches, no storing belongings on the ground.

But zoning law doesn't say a word about specific regulations that an owner can set forth in a park. According to the city, it's up to the owner to enact the "reasonable rules of conduct" and to enforce them.

The public must be given "reasonable notice" in the form of a posted sign before a new rule is enforced, the Department of City Planning said in an email.

The only visible sign posted in Zuccotti Park regarding regulations bans skateboarding, roller-blading and bicycling. Brookfield refused to comment on whether it has attempted to post other signs dictating the rules of conduct.

What Brookfield should or should not be permitted to forbid in the plaza should be hashed out in an open discussion with the city and the protesters, Kayden said.

"At a certain point, I think even Occupy Wall Street, with its admirable ambitions and goals, may want to consider whether its occupation begins to exclude others," Kayden said. "Is it a public use? Absolutely. Does it mean it can be there forever? Far less clear."

FBI official calls for secure, alternate Internet system

LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press

BALTIMORE The computer networks that control power plants and financial systems will never be secure enough and a new, highly secure alternative Internet should be considered for development, a top FBI official said Thursday.

Shawn Henry, the FBI's executive assistant director, said critical systems are under increasing threat from terror groups looking to buy or lease the computer skills and malware needed to launch a cyber attack.

In an Associated Press interview Thursday, Henry said jihadist militants looking to harm the U.S. can tap organized crime groups who are willing to sell their services and abilities to attack computer systems. He would not say which terror group or whether any insurgent networks have actually been able to acquire the high-tech capabilities.

But he said one way to protect critical utility and financial systems would be to set up a separate, highly secure Internet.

Henry sketched out the Internet idea to a crowd at a conference of the International Systems Security Association, saying that cyberthreats will always continue to evolve and outpace efforts to defend networks against them.

"We can't tech our way out of the cyberthreat," Henry said. "The challenge with the Internet is you don't know who's launching the attack." A key step, he said, would be to develop networks where anonymity is not an option and only known and trusted employees have access.

The vulnerabilities of critical systems such as power plants, the electric grid or Wall Street were a prime topic during the conference, reflecting growing concerns by U.S. officials.

Government security officials say cyber attackers are using the Internet to steal money, ferret out classified secrets and technology and disturb or destroy important infrastructure, from the electrical grid and telecommunications networks to nuclear power plants and transportation systems.

And while Henry described a system for the future, the head of the Pentagon's Cyber Command warned that the attacks against critical systems are increasingly carrying destructive viruses or malware.

Gen. Keith Alexander, who also is director of the National Security Agency, said the Pentagon and intelligence agencies must do more to protect their computer systems and coordinate with private companies to safeguard public networks.

And when a computer network is infected, someone should be able to disconnect it, he said.

"Is it the FBI? Is it the NSA? Is it the military or is it the ISPs — the Internet service providers? But somebody can turn that device off," Alexander said during a conference of the International Systems Security Association.

Alexander added that the Defense Department is finalizing policies that will determine what the military can do in the event of a cyber attack.

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC WORKSHOP
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Workshop will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

A Community Workshop to discuss the Colorado Pedestrian Esplanade project located on Colorado Avenue between Fourth Street and Ocean Avenue. The workshop discussion will include, but not be limited to: introducing the Peter Walker Partners design team, the design process, design team preliminary site analysis, and reconnaissance work to date, integrating pedestrian, bicycle, transit and vehicle traffic flow, community participatory feedback, site challenges and potential benefits, concepts and next steps. This is an opportunity for input from the public and the Planning Commission.

Prior to the Community Workshop, from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m., there will be a Site Walk of the project area along Colorado Avenue from Ocean Avenue to Fourth Street, guided by City staff. The Site Walk meeting will commence at 6:00 p.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Colorado Avenue.

WHAT: Esplanade Site Walk
WHEN: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
WHERE: Intersection of Main Street and Colorado Avenue
WHAT: Community Workshop
WHEN: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
WHERE: Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth Street, Room 104
Santa Monica, California

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information, please contact the (310) 458-8341. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, Rapid 3, #4, #5, #7, #8 and #9 provide service to the Ken Edwards Center. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Peter James en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

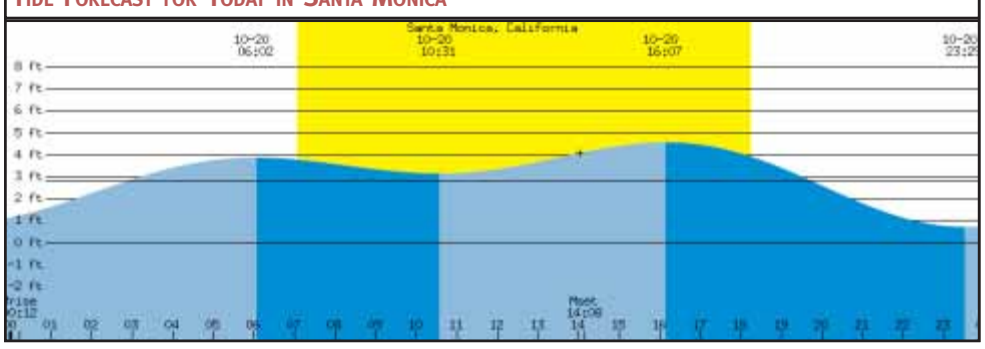
Swell Forecast

NW swell come ashore, hitting SB/VC early in the day, and finally SD mid to late morning. Size should run head high at most west facing breaks with pluses at standouts going about 2' overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

NW is expected to back off a bit, more along the lines of chest to at times head high for west facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **October 12, 2011**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - www.healthebay.org - brc@healthebay.org - 800 HEAL BAY

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 21 / 1
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Groudwick Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Cerrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Aliso creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	D	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	F	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	B	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	D
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	D	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	B	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	B	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	F	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card® is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A–F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

NBA

Labor talks turn nasty as negotiations end

BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK Three days and 30 hours' worth of talks ended on a nasty note Thursday in NBA labor negotiations. And only one thing seemed fairly certain: more games were likely to be cut. Possibly even the season.

Players insist that's the outcome owners wanted all along — "preordained," as union executive director Billy Hunter said.

"We've always felt there was still a place where they would just not go and they would lock us out as long as it would take in order to get us beyond that place. There was never really a willingness to negotiate beyond certain points," union president Derek Fisher of the Lakers said. "There was just a line drawn, and regardless of what's going on, how many times we meet, 'we're not going past that.'"

After 30 hours of negotiations before a federal mediator, the sides remained divided over two main issues — the division of revenues and the structure of the salary cap system.

"We understand the ramifications of where we are," Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver said. "We're saddened on behalf of the game."

Without a deal, NBA Commissioner David Stern, who missed Thursday's session with the flu, almost certainly will decide more games must be dropped.

The season was supposed to begin Nov. 1, but all games through Nov. 14 — 100 in total — already have been scrapped, costing players about $170 million in salaries.

Stern said previously that games through Christmas were in jeopardy without a deal this week. Silver said the labor committee would speak with Stern on Friday about the future schedule, though no further cancellations are expected yet.

Silver said he was a little more optimistic than usual going into the talks, but the union later accused him of lying, with Hunter saying: "They knew when they presented what they were presenting to us that it wasn't going to fly."

The union said owners essentially gave it an ultimatum to accept a 50-50 split of revenues. Attorney Jeffrey Kessler said the meeting was "hijacked."

"We were shocked," he said. "We went in there trying to negotiate and they came in and they said you either accept 50-50 or we're done and we won't discuss anything else."

Both sides praised federal mediator George Cohen and said they felt there was some progress on minor issues at the start of the talks. But it was clear by the time talks broke down that there were bad feelings.

"We've spent the last few days making our best effort to try and find a resolution here. Not one that was necessarily a win-win. It wouldn't be a win for us. It wouldn't be a win for them. But one that we felt like would get our game back ... and get our guys back on the court, get our vendors back to work, get the arenas open, get these communities revitalized," Fisher said.

"And in our opinion, that's not what the NBA and the league is interested in at this point. They're interested in telling you one side of the stories that are not true and this is very serious to us. This is not in any way about ego. There are a lot of people's livelihoods at stake separate from us."

Hunter said the union made "concession after concession after concession ... and it's just not enough."

"We're not prepared to let them impose a system on us that eliminates guarantees, reduces contract lengths, diminishes all our increases," he said. "We're saying no way. We fought too long and made too many sacrifices to get where we are."

Previously each side had proposed receiving 53 percent of basketball-related income after players were guaranteed 57 percent under the previous collective bargaining agreement.

Silver said the league formally proposed a 50-50 revenue split Wednesday. The union said its proposal would have been a band that would have allowed it to collect as much as 53 percent but no less than 50, based on the league's revenues.

"Hopefully, we can get back to the table, but certainly a tough day, a very tough day," said Peter Holt, the labor relations committee chair and owner of the San Antonio Spurs.

Asked whether the players would drop to 50 percent, Holt said he didn't think it was that big of a jump but that the union did.

He said the league would not go above 50 percent "as of today. But never say never on anything."

Hunter said Cleveland owner Dan Gilbert told players to trust that if they took the 50-50 split, the salary cap issues could be worked out.

Hunter's response?

"I can't trust your gut. I got to trust my own gut," he said. "There's no way in the world I'm going to trust your gut on whether or not you're going to be open and amenable to making the changes in the system that we think are necessary and appropriate."

Owners and players met with Cohen for 16 hours Tuesday, ending around 2 a.m. Wednesday, then returned just eight hours later and spent another 8? hours in discussions. The sides then met for about five hours Thursday, before calling it quits.

"Am I worried about the season, per se? Yeah. But I'm more so worried about us standing up for what we believe in," New Orleans Hornets guard Jarrett Jack said. "I think that's the bigger issue at hand."

Cohen didn't recommend that the two sides continue the mediation process as they weren't able to resolve the "strongly held, competing positions that separated them on core issues."

Though the sides have said they believe bargaining is the only route to a deal, the process could end up in the courts. Each brought an unfair labor practice charge against the other with the National Labor Relations Board, and the league also filed a federal lawsuit against the union attempting to block it from decertifying.

Union officials, so far, have been opposed to decertification, a route the NFL players initially chose during their lockout.

However, Hunter said Thursday that "all of our options are on the table. Everything."

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Double Feature
7:30pm

The Raven (NR) 1hr 26min
Masque of the Red Death (NR) 1hr 29min

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Mighty Macs (G) 1hr 40min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Dolphin Tale 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
11:15am, 2:15pm, 5:05pm, 7:50pm

Drive (R) 1hr 40min
10:30pm

Ides of March (R) 1hr 42min
11:00am, 1:30pm, 4:00pm, 6:40pm, 9:20pm

Norman (R) 1hr 37min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Footloose (PG-13) 1hr 53min
10:50am, 12:45pm, 1:45pm, 3:45pm, 4:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 9:10pm, 10:05pm

Real Steel (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
10:40am, 1:35pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Three Musketeers (PG-13) 1hr 50min
10:35am, 1:20pm, 4:00pm, 6:45pm, 9:20pm

Three Musketeers 3D (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Moneyball (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
10:25am, 1:25pm, 4:25pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Ides of March (R) 1hr 42min
11:50am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 7:50pm, 10:20pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Take Shelter (R) 2hrs 00min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Chalet Girl (NR) 1hr 36min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Women on the 6th Floor (Les femmes du 6eme etage) (NR) 1hr 44min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Man Nobody Knew (NR) 1hr 44min
1:55pm, 7:20pm

Finding Joe (NR) 1hr 20min
4:40pm, 9:55pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Thing (R) 1hr 43min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Way (PG-13) 1hr 55min
11:15am, 4:45pm, 10:10pm

Paranormal Activity 3 (R) 1hr 21min
11:00am, 12:15pm, 1:20pm, 2:30pm, 3:40pm, 4:50pm, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 8:20pm, 9:30pm, 10:40pm

Johnny English Reborn (PG) 1hr 41min
11:50am, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Big Year (PG) 1hr 40min
2:00pm, 7:35pm

50/50 (R) 1hr 39min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Out with pals tonight, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You could be somewhat disoriented this morning, but by the p.m. you are direct and say what you feel. Be more serious-minded. You'll get results. Your strong personality is a given. Let others express themselves, too. Tonight: With a loved one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You could be happiest close to home. Your ability to make the best out of difficult circumstances allows greater give-and-take. Still, you might want to take an active stand. Pace yourself. Tonight: The slower the better.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Return calls, but don't forget to follow through on your to-do list. Open up conversations, knowing what could happen if you and others make assumptions. Work with real facts, even if you might be uncomfortable. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Be careful with a tendency to be possessive and touchy. Clearly you have a very different style from many, even in the workplace. Emote a little less, keeping your anger at bay. You will find the appropriate avenue to express your feelings in the next 24 hours. Tonight: Do something special for a loved one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Your spunk is admirable, leaving many people behind. Is that what you really want to do? Competition is fun, but if you always come in first place, could that be affecting your ability to relate successfully with a key associate or loved one? Tonight: Make it special, as only you can.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You might wonder which way to go with a problematic situation. At the present, the best you can do is understand where your strong reactions are coming from. Detach and then approach a situation from a more centered point of view. Tonight: Take a break from the here and now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ A meeting gets an important project off on the right foot. You could be surprised by all the enthusiasm that surrounds you. You might not be sure which way to go. Allow greater give-and-take. You could feel that finally you have the support and team you need. Tonight: TGIF.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ A must appearance could color your plans and affect your mood. You could be putting 100 percent into what you are concerned about but still fall flat. Sometimes, when there is too much focus and an implicit demand, there can be a backfire. Relax a little. Tonight: A must appearance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You will want to do something very different from in the past. Detach -- you will see a situation in a different light. However, you might become so easygoing that you might not have any desire to deal with the situation at all. Tonight: Feed your mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ A key associate makes all the difference in what happens. You see a matter very differently. Try to avoid an argument at all costs. Your perspective evolves the more you talk. Do understand that you don't have the control you might desire. Tonight: Dinner for two.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You might want to defer and honor what is happening with a key person in your life. Today it isn't about you. Your willingness to go with the flow will be long remembered. Tonight: Put your feet up.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Continue handling the little items that someone is allowing to drop by the wayside. Think through an issue with care. When you feel that the timing is with you, move forward and start a conversation. Tonight: Out with some pals.

Happy birthday

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

This year, if you detach, you will see how many choices you have -- be it your mood or life decisions. If you're feeling confused, know that you are not ready to commit just yet. When you're ready to act, you move with clarity and incisiveness. Others know that you mean business. If you are single, a friendship could develop into much more, if you so choose. If you're attached, because of a newfound openness, the two of you enjoy your life together. Count on LEO.



MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

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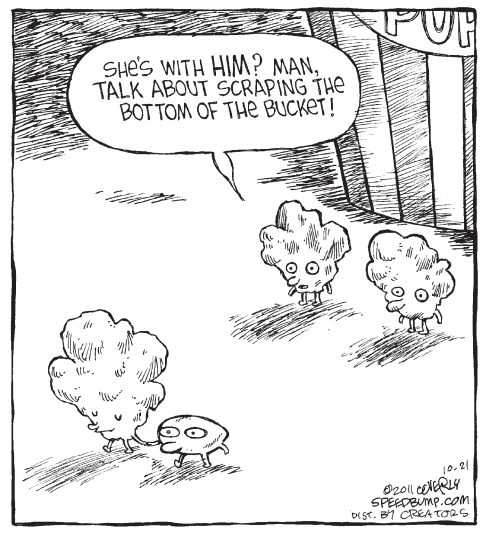
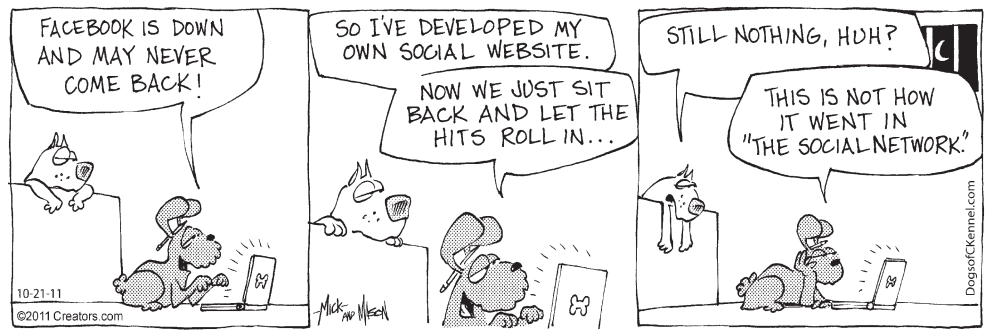
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



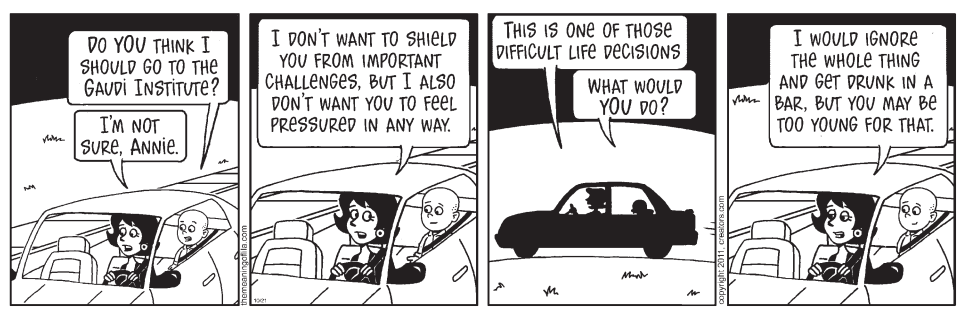
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★★★

1								9
		7				3		
	2		5		8		1	
		4	9		1	5		
		9	6		3	2		
	4		1		2		8	
		2				7		
9								3

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

9	1	5	3	2	8	7	4	6
2	4	8	9	6	7	3	5	1
6	7	3	4	5	1	9	8	2
4	2	1	8	9	5	6	7	3
8	6	7	1	3	2	5	9	4
5	3	9	7	4	6	2	1	8
3	8	6	5	1	9	4	2	7
1	5	4	2	7	3	8	6	9
7	9	2	6	8	4	1	3	5

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Goalie's stats
6 Computer shortcut
11 Set off
12 Longed
13 Comic Bruce
14 — Island
15 Parisian pal
16 Drop back
18 Director's call
19 Singer Tillis
20 Groom's answer
21 U.N. Day mo.
22 Not coastal
24 Fox hit show
25 Niger neighbor
27 Farm grazers
29 Like some fenders
32 — tear
33 Huck's pal
34 Holiday lead-in
35 Not working
36 Road-house
37 Big snake
38 Chunk
40 What-soever
42 Slipup
43 Gall
44 Takes a break
45 Stun gun

DOWN

1 Deli buy
2 Early hominids
3 Simple cookies
4 Direction suffix
5 Salon work
6 "Legally Blonde" character
7 German cry
8 Candy counter buys
9 Lower
10 "Swan Lake" role
17 Appended
23 Green and Gore
24 Bar staple
26 Leftover piece
27 "High Noon" star
28 Burning
30 Unfold
31 Vegas worker
33 Rows
39 Guest's bed
41 Assam export

J	A	P	E	S	■	F	A	R	G	O
A	L	E	R	T	■	O	T	H	E	R
M	A	R	I	E	■	C	O	O	T	S
■	■	S	E	W	S	U	P	■	■	■
J	A	I	■	I	T	S	■	C	H	I
A	R	M	A	N	I	■	I	R	O	N
P	O	M	E	G	R	A	N	A	T	E
A	M	O	R	■	R	U	N	N	E	R
N	A	N	■	K	E	G	■	B	L	T
■	■	■	R	E	D	U	C	E	■	■
H	O	V	E	L	■	S	O	R	E	R
I	D	E	A	L	■	T	O	R	S	O
S	E	E	D	Y	■	A	S	Y	E	T

Yesterday's answer

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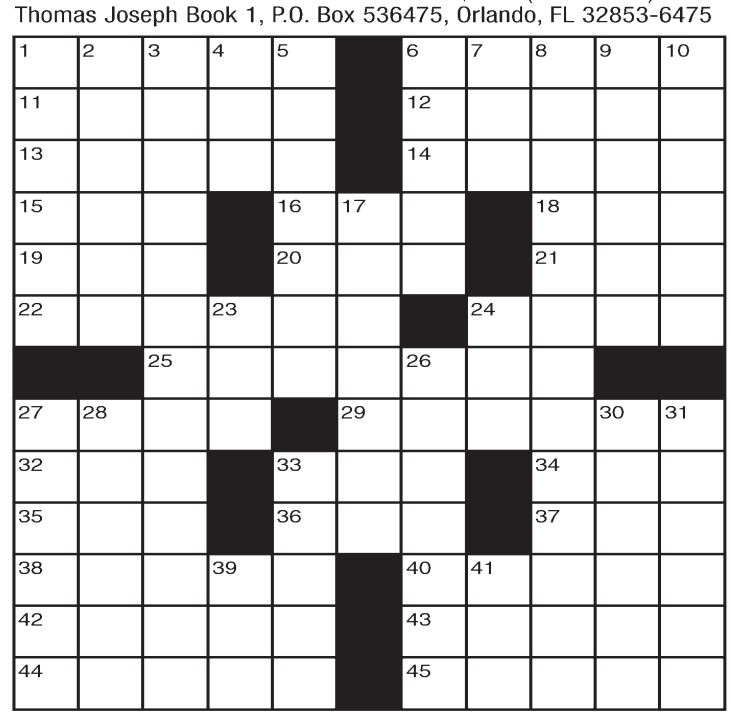

10-21

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• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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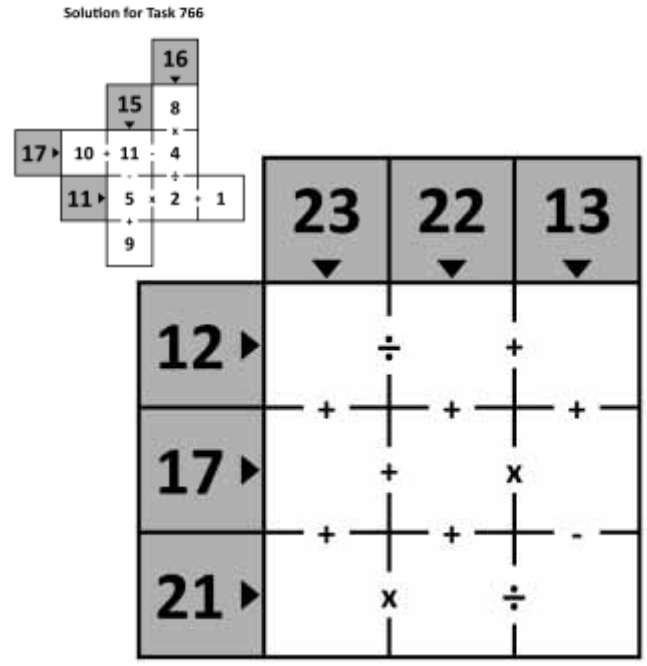
Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

2, 3, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 12

Solution for Task 766



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 24 25 45 47 53 Meganumber: 42 Jackpot: $48M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 29 33 37 40 Meganumber: 9 Jackpot: $13M

Fantasy 5: 2 5 7 22 30

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 0 6 5 EVENING: 9 5 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 05 California Classic 2nd: 03 Hot Shot 3rd: 07 Eureka RACE TIME: 1:41.35

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Unclear on the Concept: (1) Pennsylvania state Rep. Michael Sturla, an opponent of increased natural-gas drilling in his district, warned in August that one effect of the drilling would be an increase of sexually transmitted diseases "amongst the womenfolk." (He said later that he had heard that from a hospital administrator.) (2) Nicholas Davis was arrested in a public park in Seattle in August while, according to a police officer, "masturbating violently." The officer said Davis explained, "There just isn't enough free love in Seattle."

■ female Wisconsin prison chaplain was charged in September with several crimes in an alleged attempt to stage a fake hostage situation with an inmate for the purpose of gaining transfers of both to another prison in the state. Prosecutors said the chaplain, a Wiccan priest named Jamyi Witch, 52, instructed the inmate at Oshkosh Correctional Institution to come to her office, barricade the door, throw things around the room, and role-play with Witch as if she were his mother. While the office was under siege, the pair allegedly had consensual sex, and Witch supplied the man with drugs and sang him lullabies, supposedly to calm him down, ending the drama (until charges were filed).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1959 President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs an executive order transferring Wernher von Braun and other German scientists from the United States Army to NASA.

1966 Aberfan disaster: A slag heap collapses on the village of Aberfan in Wales, killing 144 people, mostly schoolchildren.

1969 A coup d'état in Somalia brings Siad Barre to power.

1973 John Paul Getty III's ear is cut off by his kidnappers and sent to a newspaper in Rome; it doesn't arrive until November 8.

1977 The European Patent Institute is founded.

WORD UP!

tawdry
\TAW-dree\ , adjective;
1. Gaudy, showy and cheap.
2. Low or mean; base: tawdry motives.

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Date of Filing Application: 7/28/2011
To Whom it may concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are:
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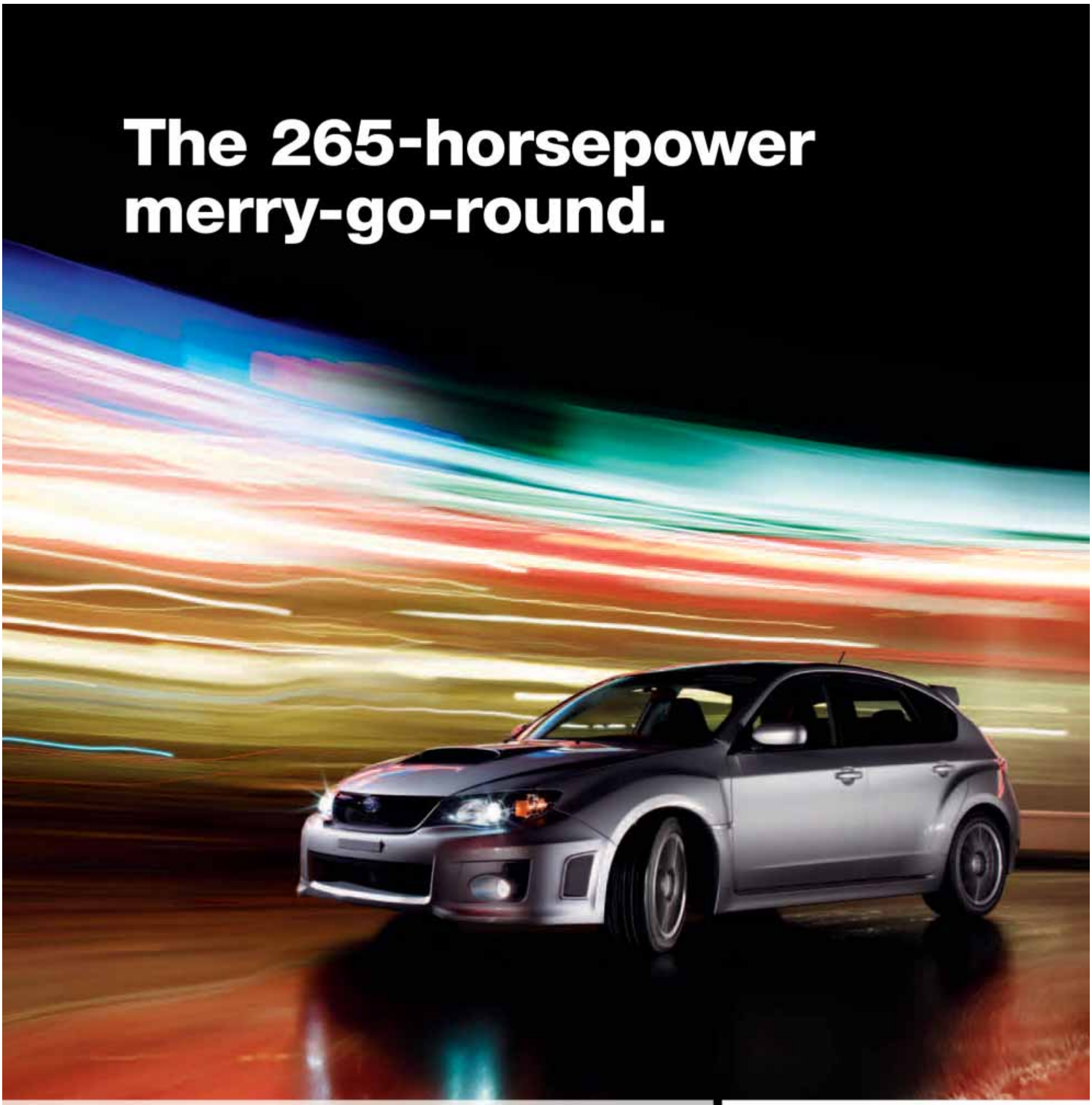

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